

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-07 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 TRSE-00
SIG-01 AS-01 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 STR-04
ITC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 XMB-02 /114 R

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E:LROSS

TREASURY: MR. GALE

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R 072259Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS: DISCUSSIONS ON
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MAJOR NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES

REFS: A) STATE 156112; B) MANILA 10197

1. PLEASE CONVEY TO MRS. MANALO PRIOR TO THE JULY 13-14
ASEAN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE DIALOGUE WITH THE US
THAT UNDER THE NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES OF THE AGENDA THE US

WISHES TO PUT THE PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON COMMODITY POLICY. WE BELIEVE THE FOCUS ON THIS QUESTION IS JUSTIFIED BY THE MAJOR INTEREST OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES IN A NUMBER OF COMMODITIES AND BECAUSE THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA OF NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS TO A YEAR WILL BE PREOCCUPIED WITH CONSULTATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS ON VARIOUS COMMODITY PROBLEMS.

2. THE US DELEGATION WILL COME PREPARED TO HAVE A THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON COMMODITIES WHICH ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO ASEAN COUNTRIES AND ON THE COMMON FUND. THE LIST OF COMMODITIES WE SUGGEST FOR DISCUSSION ARE TIN, RUBBER, COPPER, SUGAR, TIMBER, HARD FIBERS AND VEGETABLE OILS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT NOT ALL ASEAN COUNTRIES HAVE AN EQUAL INTEREST IN ALL OF THESE COMMODITIES BUT

GENERALLY WE BELIEVE TWO OR MORE HAVE AN INTEREST IN THESE PRODUCTS. WE BELIEVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON GENERAL COMMODITY POLICY AND ON ABOVE LIST OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES WILL CLARIFY OUR RESPECTIVE POLICY APPROACHES. IN THE SAME WAY, WE BELIEVE THE EARLY SEPTEMBER DATE OF THE MEETING IS A PARTICULARLY USEFUL TIME TO HAVE PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS ON THE COMMON FUND.

3. IF THIS PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE TO ASEAN, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE IF THE ASEAN DELEGATIONS WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INCLUDE OFFICIALS WITH THE APPROPRIATE COMMODITY POLICY EXPERTISE.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING OF AN EARLY RESPONSE FROM ASEAN TO THE ABOVE AS WELL AS ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS ASEAN MAY WISH TO TAKE UP UNDER THIS AGENDA ITEM.

VANCE

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